



# Christian Encounter Ranch NEWSLETTER

## DIRECTOR'S VIEW

### The year in review

As we draw to the close of another year, there's much to remember and celebrate. We thank God for His good gifts: meeting needs, guiding organizational accomplishments, and pouring His grace into this community. Here are a few highlights from the Ranch ministry in 2021:



#### January

As the year began, we celebrated a tremendous outpouring of extra financial support that arrived in the form of many year-end gifts and material donations. These gifts came in large and small amounts and allowed us to move forward with developing plans for the duplex remodel while simultaneously tackling many other critical projects throughout the year.

#### February

The generosity continued, as we received a large gift through a long-time Ranch supporter's will. The Ranch guys and



girls completed excellent trips to the forest to build igloos, character, and teamwork.

#### March

As a break from the grind of the school year, students and interns went to Royal Gorge for a day of cross-country skiing.

#### April

Reporters from WORLD Magazine came to the Ranch to feature us as a finalist in

their annual Hope Awards. This publicity resulted in financial blessings, new connections, and student and intern applications.



We hosted our annual Rescue Run, and it was a great joy to experience broader community life after the winter Covid wave.

The maintenance team remodeled a bathroom, built a new laundry room, and added a steeply discounted Honda Pilot to our vehicle fleet. As the cherry on top of April, thanks to a generous donor, the Ranch Family went to K1 Speed and raced go-karts!



#### May

A crew of skilled volunteers, our maintenance team, and the young men in the program repainted the guys' dorms and entirely remodeled the interior of one

whole building. During this project, a 16' utility trailer was donated in response to the request on our needs list and was put to work within an hour of receiving it. At the end of the month we celebrated many victories and accomplishments of the young people here, including high school graduation and another baptism.

#### June

The facilities at Angels' Meadow were used for much significant ministry, including a men's retreat from a local church, a week-long camp for 80 young people run by Christian Youth In Action, and our annual Ranch Family Camp.

Many new connections were made through church visits, a community event for teens, a local fundraiser at MOD Pizza, and publicity through Air1 and K-Love radio programs. And, just in time for record heat waves, evaporative coolers were installed in each dorm room. *(cont. on pg. 2)*



# Year (cont. from pg. 1)

## July

Publicity opportunities continued as ABC10 News sent a van to the Ranch to feature the Agony Ride in a morning news segment. Despite wildfire smoke and road closures, cyclists completed the 39th Agony Ride. At time of publication, riders have raised \$237,777, which eclipses the previous second-highest total (\$222K), and money continues to come in.



challenge of completing our high ropes course and enjoyed a day trip to the coast.

## August

After the Nevada County Building Department gave final approval and stamped the duplex remodel plans, we did a ground-breaking ceremony high-



lighting the many ways the Lord went before us. This project had been on the to-do list for over a decade, and due to the tremendous support given at the turn of the year, as well as a host of skilled craftsmen lined up to help, it is now under way.

Our students and interns each took on the



## September

The Ranch was hopping with activity all month as the team prepared the property, facilities, plans, and programs for the 50th

Anniversary Celebration. As part of this, the maintenance team rebuilt the lodge patio area by the main parking lot. About 300 people came to the celebration, including many former Ranch family members, pioneers, and local supporters. People

from every single year of the Ranch's existence were present. The fellowship was sweet and many impactful stories were shared.

## October

A 2011 Honda Odyssey was donated, and the vehicle fleet, which was a matter of prayer in 2020, is now a strength. Staff member Jensen Near presented internship opportunities at two colleges in VA, and we welcomed baby Caroline Palmer into the Ranch family.

So much was accomplished that it's difficult to keep track of all of it. Each project completed blesses this family and helps us accomplish our mission. The best part of all--hearts healing and growing--can't even be included on a list like this. Each day this year, young people at the Ranch achieved victories through courageously

choosing truth and love.

God has given us many good gifts this year. As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, may we all be filled with the joy that comes from the greatest gift ever given: Jesus Christ. Merry Christmas!

"Thanks be to God, who always leads us in victory through Christ." 2 Cor. 2:14.

*Nate Boyd, Executive Director*



## MEMORIALS

*In memory of Jim Parker, given by: Terry & Ann Barley*

*In memory of Bill Peterson, given by: Susan Amick & Dee Ann Davis*

*In memory of Michael Tam, given by: Marvin Mah*



# PROTECT THE MISSION, GIVE A GIFT

## TUITION SPONSORSHIP

To give directly to a student in need, give to the Jim Parker Student Scholarship Fund.

## ADDITIONAL WAYS TO GIVE

### Gifts of financial securities

Giving appreciated stocks and mutual funds allows you to take advantage of applicable tax incentives, including avoiding capital gains taxes. To find out more, talk to your investment or tax advisor.

### Other non-cash gifts

Jewelry, vehicles, and real estate

### IRA rollover

If you are over 70½, you may roll over up to \$100,000 to charity from your IRA without paying any federal income tax on the gift. To learn more, contact us or your account custodian.

### Legacy gift

If you'd like to learn about ways to create a long-term impact on Christian Encounter, please call Nate at 530-268-0877 or email [nate@christianencounter.org](mailto:nate@christianencounter.org).

### Pandemic provisions incentivize giving in 2021:

A charitable gift of \$300 (\$600 if married filing jointly) is now deductible on your income taxes, even if you take the standard deduction and don't itemize.

Individuals can deduct up to 100% of their AGI.

Business deductions have temporarily increased as well. Check with a tax professional to learn more about how this benefits you.

**Text "GIVE" to 530-268-0877  
to donate now**

## ALUMNI NEWS



Holly (McClain) (intern '18-'19) and TJ Finn (intern '18) tied the knot in October in Auburn, CA. The wedding was officiated by former CER board member Dwight Koopmans. TJ and Holly lead the youth ministry at the local church Holly grew up attending.



Devyn Welch (student '11-'12) has been working as a cell tower climber for the past year and resides in Portland, OR.



Austin Meeks (student '09-'10) is the father to three beautiful girls: Abigail (6), Emelia (18 mos), and Nora (3 mos.) (not pictured). Austin has been working at the Ford Kentucky Truck Plant as a forklift operator since 2015 and lives in Louisville, KY.



Michelle Anderson (intern '11-'12) went back to school and earned an Associate's degree in both law enforcement and courts in 2017. She then worked at the Placer County District Attorney's office with victims of domestic violence until 2019, when she accepted a position as an evidence technician at the Placer County Sheriff's Office.



Lorri Eggink (intern '02-'03) lives in Mount Olive, AL with her three children Sadie (14), Westin (10), and Lucy (7). Lorri completed the Physical Therapist Assistant Program through Wallace State Community College and obtained her licensure this year.



Jessica Hernandez (student '05-'06) returned to school after having her first child to pursue massage therapy. She currently works as a medical assistant for a large group of orthopedic physicians. Jessica lives in Oxnard, CA with her two children, Jimmy (15) and Jazmyn (5).

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*Christian Encounter Ranch is a non-profit, non-denominational, residential community helping 15- to 24-year-olds by providing love, spiritual guidance, high school education, counseling, and 24-hour supervision. Internships are offered to young adults 21 years and older. We are a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, and all gifts are tax deductible.*

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**“All the feels”** The intern girls each donned an emotion represented in the Pixar movie Inside Out for Halloween. Friends of the ministry coordinated a night of trick-or-treating for the students and interns in a local private neighborhood.

***Read more about ministry provisions and highlights inside***